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Representative
Glenn Anderson
5th Legislative District



Representative
Jay Rodne
5th Legislative District

Dear neighbors and friends,

With the coming of the holiday season, it is our hope you and your family enjoy this special time of year.

As your state representatives, we'll be returning to Olympia in January. In 2008, like every even-numbered year, the Legislature will hold a 60-day session. This brief session means that a lot of work will be done in a very short amount of time. **Enclosed is our biennial survey on issues and ideas the Legislature may consider.**

Your feedback is essential to us. We face enormous challenges to improving education, making health care affordable, investing in transportation improvements, encouraging a robust economic recovery and restoring voter trust. **Your opinion matters.**

While we could not touch on all the issues we may face in this survey, we have provided space at the end where you can write additional comments on matters of concern to you.

Please take the time to respond to our district survey. It is this dialogue with you that enables us to translate your priorities and concerns into action in Olympia.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact us via email or on our toll-free hotline at 1-800-562-6000.

It is an honor to serve as your representatives in Olympia.

Sincerely,

Glenn Anderson

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Since 2004, state spending has increased 33 percent (approximately \$8 billion) to \$33.4 billion. According to Governor Gregoire's own budget office, this increase will result in a \$3 billion state budget deficit beginning in 2010, even with a healthy economy. This will be the largest budget deficit in state history.

_____ Act now to prevent a budget deficit
Wait until the budget deficit actually happens

- ___ Raise taxes
- ___ Raise taxes and limit spending to current levels
- ___ Raise taxes and cut spending on government programs
- ___ No new taxes and cut spending, while refocusing on high priority programs

- ☐ K-12 Education
- ☐ Higher Education
- ☐ Health Care Subsidies
- ☐ Social Services
- ☐ Law Enforcement & Prisons
- ☐ Transportation
- ☐ Jobs Creation
- ☐ Environmental Protection

_____ K-12 Education
Health Care Subsidies

A blackboard with a piece of chalk.

☐ Yes


☐ Yes, but only if state sales tax and property taxes are also constitutionally capped.

☐ No

Our state constitution declares funding for K-12 education is the “paramount duty” of the state, meaning it is superior to all other things. However, K-12 education spending still competes with all other state programs for funding. Over the last four years, for the first time in state history, per capita state spending on human services (social services, health care and prisons) is now greater than per capita state spending on K-12 education.

_____ Yes
_____ No

The U.S. currently imports about 60 percent of its oil. The Middle East currently accounts for just under half of U.S. oil imports. Over the next 10-15 years, 90 percent of the world's known oil reserves will be controlled by foreign governments either hostile to or competitive with the U.S. Additionally, the demand for electrical power over the same 10-15 year period is expected to triple in the U.S.A.



It would take 5-10 years for the state to build its own strategic petroleum reserve. The reserve would provide a 30-day supply to buffer the state's economy from anticipated oil supply disruptions and price spikes. Should the state build such a reserve?

_____ Yes
No

Nuclear energy is considered the cleanest and least environmentally destructive source for generating electrical energy. However, nuclear energy is controversial due to radioactive waste generated in the process. Recently, new technologies have been developed to reduce risks and minimize radioactive waste.

Should the state comprehensively study new generation nuclear technologies to determine if we should build new nuclear energy facilities in our state?

_____ Yes
_____ No

Prosperity in the competitive global trade economy is directly linked to the size and quality of investments in port and freight transportation infrastructure. Over the next several years, British Columbia and the Canadian federal government will invest over \$1 billion to upgrade port and freight transportation infrastructure. Washington ports have no such plan, and the state is falling significantly behind in making such investments. Should this continue it is anticipated Washington will have the least competitive ports on the west coast of North America.

Should the state adopt legislation to merge the ports of Seattle, Tacoma and Everett into a single Puget Sound Port Authority?

_____ Yes
_____ No

The controversial 2004 election was settled by 133 votes on a third recount and a court decision. Since then, the Secretary of State's office has scrubbed the state voter rolls of over 175,000 invalid registrations. Additionally, new uniform ballot processing and security procedures have been adopted by all counties (except King County) statewide. The state definition for valid identification to vote includes utility and telephone bills with no validation, photo or proof of citizenship.

Should all voters be required to show valid photo ID, proof of citizenship and do so in person to register to vote?

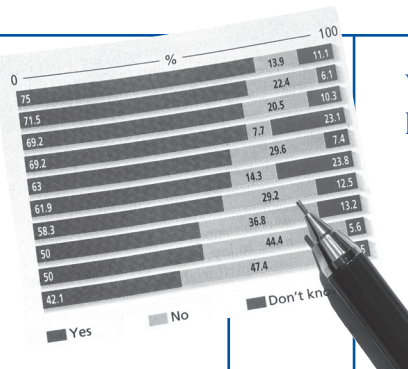
_____ Yes
No

The majority party proposed legislation last year that would allow for same-day voter registration. The proposed legislation was uniformly opposed by all elected county auditors on a bipartisan basis since it would corrupt the elections' procedure reforms instituted in 2004.

Would you support same-day voter registration?

_____ Yes
No

Governor Gregoire and the House and Senate Democrat majority leadership have endorsed legislation to make secret election ballots for labor union leadership elections, organizing elections and ratification of collective bargaining agreements illegal. The secret vote balloting process would be replaced by a public “card-check” process where union members would be required to openly cast their vote before union election representatives. This “card-check” type election process has been at the center of several federal government corruption investigations of labor union elections.



_____ Yes
_____ No

During the 2007 legislative session, the Legislature approved legislation creating a paid family leave program that would provide workers with a \$250.00 per week stipend for up to five weeks leave from work to care for a newborn child or newly adopted child. The state has not yet determined how to pay for this new entitlement program which will begin in 2009.

Which, if any, would you support to pay for this new state program?

☐ Impose a new tax on all employees in the state to pay for this new program

☐ Increase taxes for all employers in the state to pay for this program

☐ Eliminate this program – I am against any tax increase to pay for this program

Central Puget Sound faces daunting challenges to provide funding for transportation infrastructure improvements for key projects including the Viaduct, the SR 520 floating bridge, and I-90.

Would you support tolling on the Viaduct, I-90 bridge and SR 520 floating bridge as one means to help pay for the cost of needed improvements to these structures?

_____ Yes
_____ No

Based on your job and family circumstances, do you believe our state is headed in the right direction or the wrong direction?

_____ Right Direction
_____ Wrong Direction



Over the last four years, based on your family's income and cost-of-living, which statement best reflects your family's financial circumstances?

_____ We're getting ahead, I'm ok
_____ We're breaking even
_____ We're losing ground, I'm worried

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS